Manufacture of Herbal Medicines

1085. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that herbs are important ingredients in the manufacture of indigenous medicines of the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that these herbals plants are gradually diminishing with no attempt to conserve them;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the medicines prepared from the herbs are widely used by poor people of the country;

(d) if so, whether any measures have been taken to conserve these herbal plants and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government propose to help in setting up of herbal parks in the country if so, the location etc. thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is reported that some of the herbal plants required for preparation of indigenous medicines are gradually diminishing. The efforts for their conservation are enumerated in the answer to part (d) below.

(c) Ayurvedic, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy medicines are largely based on herbs and are widely used by poor people also.

(d) The Government of India and the various State Governments have initiated steps to conserve the bio-diversity in different areas of the country. The important measures include :

(i) Preserving the rich biodiversity areas by notifying them as biosphere reserves, national parks and wildlife sanctuaries for in situ conservation of plants, including threatened and rare plants; (ii) Enactment of laws such as the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, which provides for protection of endangered species; (iii) Regulation and preservation of trade and commerce in endangered species of flora and fauna under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered species of Flora and Fauna. (iv) Ex-situ conservation through cultivation and preservation of medicinal and herbal plants by various agencies like Botanical Survey of India, Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, National Botanical Research Institute, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha; (v) Arrangement for multiplication and preservation of some of the endangered medicinal plants through tissue culture; (vi) Central Assistance for Cultivation and Development of medicinal plants.

(e) There is no scheme of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for setting up of herbal parks.

नर्मदा तथा अन्य नदियों को प्रदूषण से बचाने के लिए मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से प्राप्त अनुरोध

1086. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव** : क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने नर्मदा तथा अन्य नदियों को प्रदूषण से बचाने के लिए कोई योजना प्रस्तुत की है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है और राज्य सरकार द्वारा कितनी धनराशि वहन की जायेगी ;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इस संबंध में कोई अन्तिम निर्णय लिया है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) और (ख) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने प्रस्तावित राष्ट्रीय नदी कार्य योजना के अन्तर्गत नर्मदा एवं अन्य नदियों के प्रदूषण निवारण की स्कीमें प्रस्तुत की हैं जिनकी लागत 106.60 करोड़